

Bring the Salmon Home

The Karuk Tribe's Effort to Un-Dam the Klamath

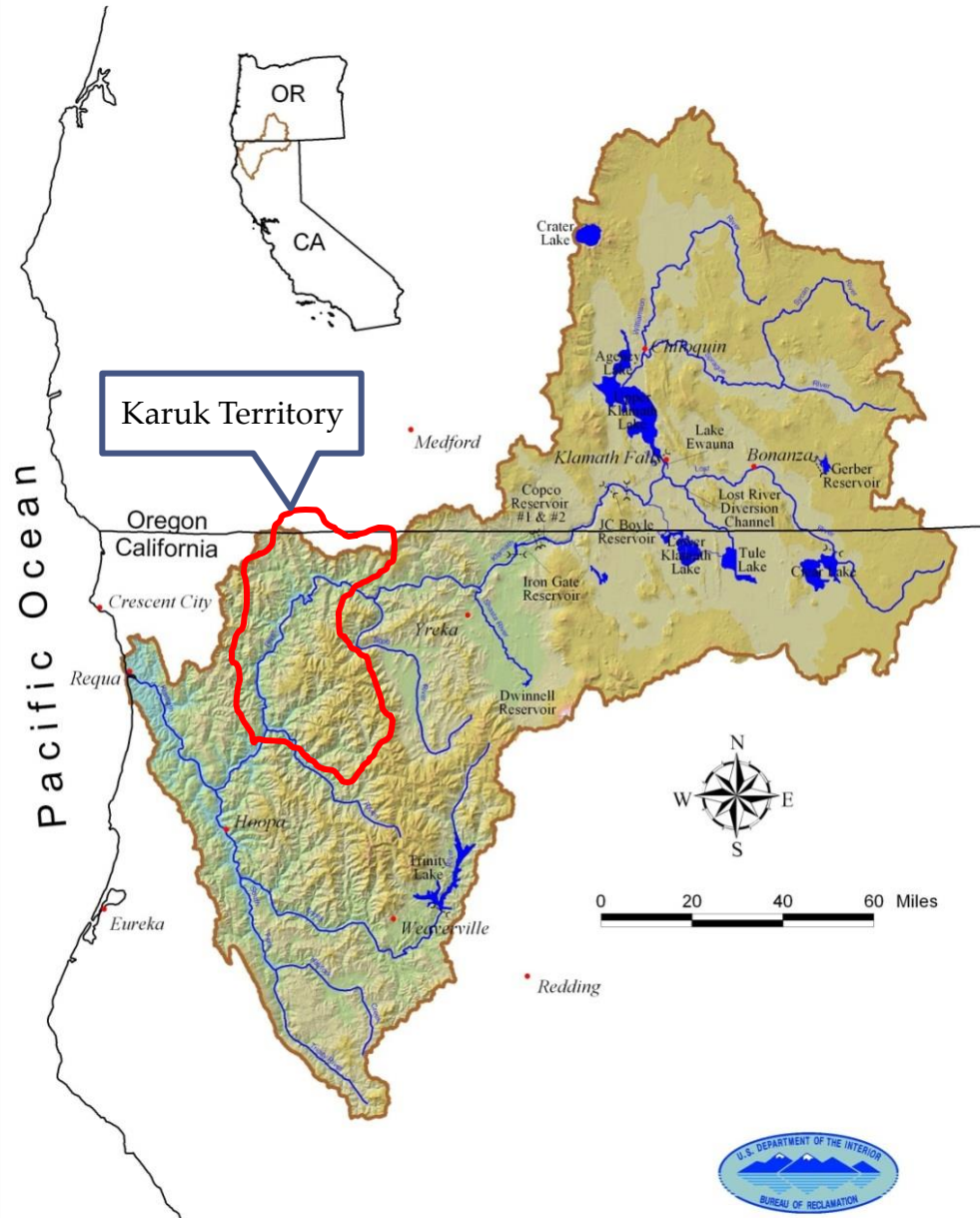
California Tribal Water Summit

April 4, 2018

Russell "Buster" Attebery, Chairman
battebery@karuk.us



Klamath River Basin



Karuk People Have Lived in the Basin since Time Immemorial



And continue traditional practices today

Diversity is the Spice of Life



Fall Chinook



Spring Chinook



Coho Salmon



Pink Salmon



Mussels



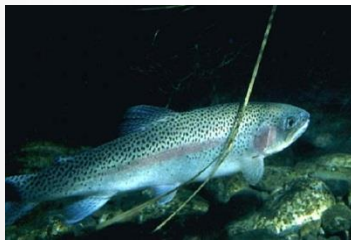
Chum Salmon



Candlefish



C'wam



Winter Steelhead



Summer Steelhead



Pacific Lamprey



Green Sturgeon

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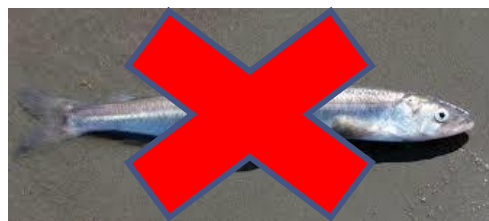
Pink Salmon



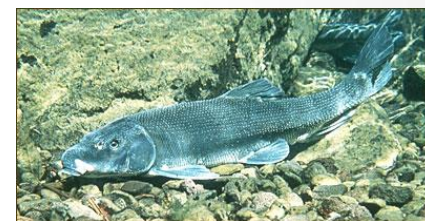
Mussels



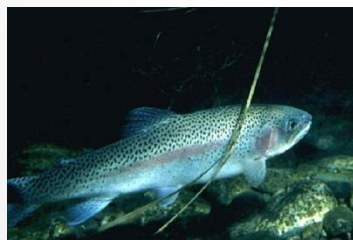
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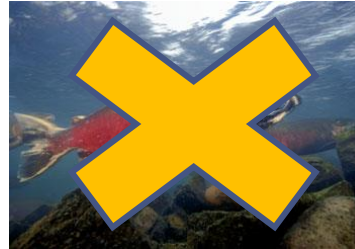
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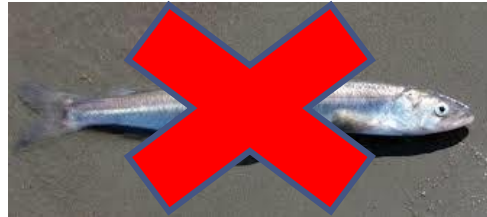
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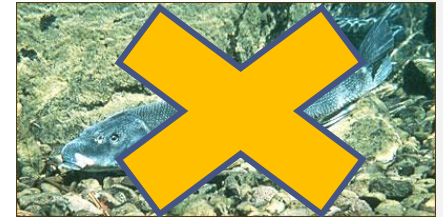
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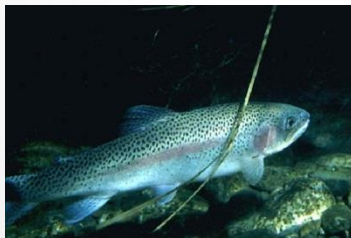
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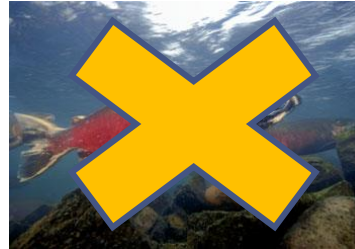
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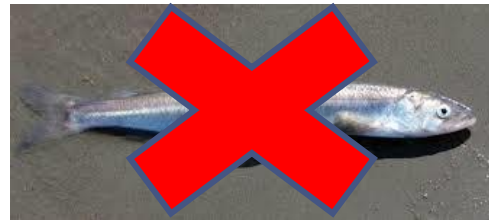
Pink Salmon



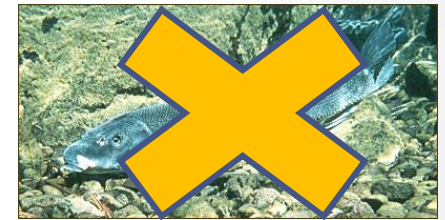
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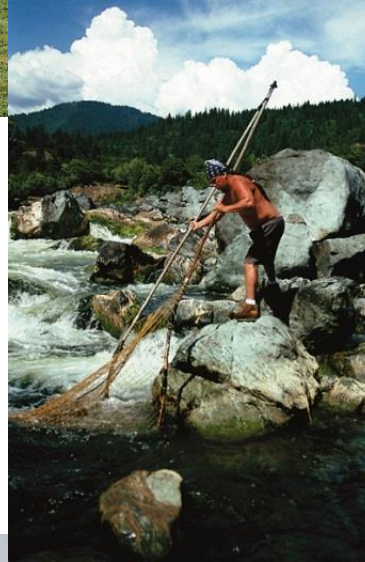


Pacific Lamprey



Green Sturgeon

New Cultural Diversity



The Klamath River has been asked to do too much...



In 2002, over 68,000 salmon died in the biggest adult fish kill in US history



Toxic algae blooms threaten human health

Cultural Impacts

- Ceremonies are at-risk
- Inability to pass down traditions such as fishing
- Sacred sites destroyed or polluted
- Denied access to traditional foods and medicines



Health Impacts

Traditionally, average Karuk consumed 1.2 pounds of fish per day. Today fish consumption is estimated to be less than 5 pounds per person per year. Consequences of this loss of a traditional diet:

- The rate of heart disease for the Karuk Tribe is 39.6%, three times the U.S. average.
- The diabetes rate for the Karuk Tribe is 21%, nearly four times the U.S. average

See: *Affects of Altered Diet on the Health of the Karuk People*, Kari Norgaard, 2005.



Economic Impacts

- Denied access to Traditional foods mean:
 - Increased food costs
 - Increased healthcare costs
- Loss of fisheries means lost tourist revenues
 - Each fish caught by a recreational fishermen is worth \$200 to the local economy



The Problems



Dams



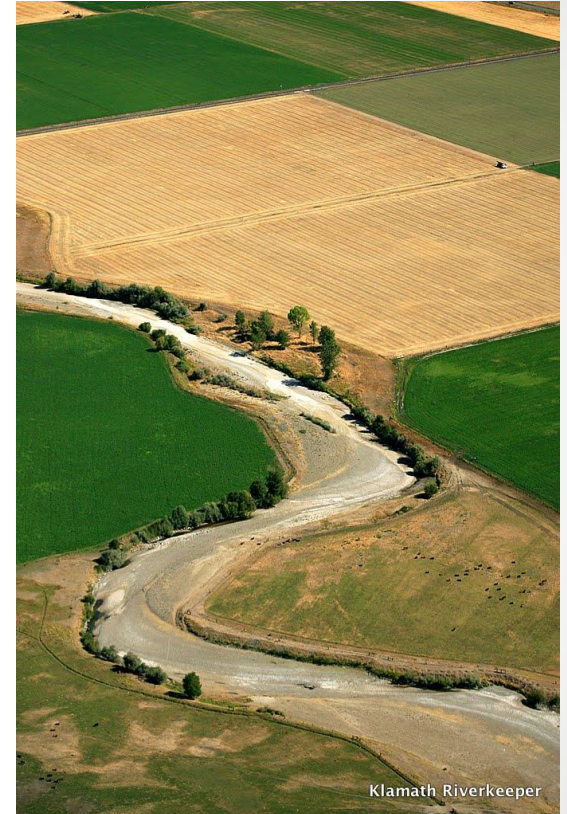
Mismanaged Landscapes



Commercial Fishing



Gold Mining




Irrigated Agriculture

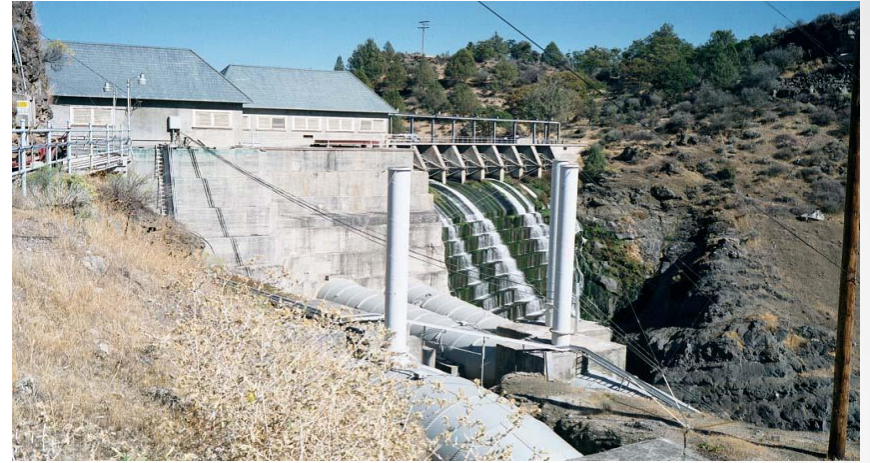
Klamath Riverkeeper



Focus on Dams

- Dam removal is a necessary (but by itself insufficient) step to restore fishery
 - Relicensing process is now
- 

Dams Targeted for Removal



What the Dams Do...

- Block access to over 350 miles of historic spawning habitat
- Degrade water quality
- Host algae blooms
- Create habitat for fish disease causing parasites to flourish
- Limit run diversity



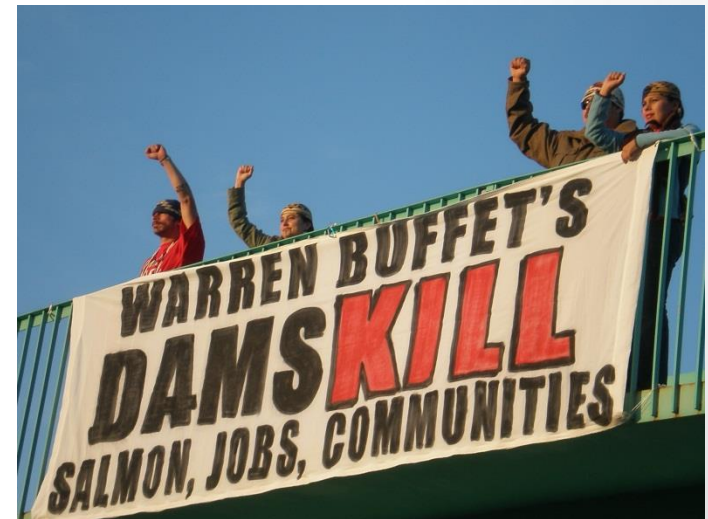


What these dams DO NOT do...

- Make lots of money for PacifiCorp
 - Actually will lose money under new license
- Make lots of power
- Provide irrigation or drinking water diversions
- Provide flood control



Getting PacifiCorp to the Table




First We started a movement!



Grassroots Pressure Only

Half the Story

- Tribal Technical Staff contributed studies to FERC Record
 - NGO's contributed technical and policy expertise
 - Tribes and allies filed numerous lawsuits
- 

But Dams only part of the Problem

- Klamath Irrigation Project affects River flows/Lake Levels
- Has nothing to do with PacifiCorp dams
- Tribes and irrigators have fought for decades over water





Klamath Project Irrigators may see Dam Removal in their interest


More Fish = Fewer regulatory obligations





KHSA

Klamath Hydroelectric Settlement Agreement

- Broadly supported
 - Business decision by PacifiCorp
 - Reflects Commitment by Tribes and States to restore fishery
 - Consistent with United States' Tribal Trust obligations to Karuk Tribe
- 

KHSA

- No Act of Congress
- Private Insurance to Deal with liability concerns
- Requires approval by Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
- Keeps 2020 as target date for removal
- Uses the \$200 of PacifiCorp ratepayer money and \$250 from CA Prop 1
- Signed and submitted to in FERC 2016
- Leaves water issues unresolved
- No Money for Habitat Restoration

Broad Support

Non-Governmental Organizations

- ☐ American Rivers
- ☐ California Trout
- ☐ Friends of the River
- ☐ Klamath Forest Alliance
- ☐ National Center for Conservation Science and Policy
- ☐ North Coast Environmental Center
- ☐ Northern California/Nevada Council Federation of Fly Fishers
- ☐ Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations
- ☐ Salmon River Restoration Council
- ☐ Trout Unlimited
- ☐ American Rivers
- ☐ California Trout
- ☐ Institute for Fisheries Resources
- ☐ Klamath Riverkeeper
- ☐ Geos Institute
- ☐ Northern California/Nevada Council Federation of Fly Fishers
- ☐ Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations
- ☐ Salmon River Restoration Council
- ☐ Sustainable Northwest
- ☐ Trout Unlimited
- ☐ The Nature Conservancy
- ☐ Klamath Basin Rangeland Trust
- ☐ Klamath Watershed Partnership
- ☐ Yamsi Ranch Flyfishing
- ☐ Cal-Ore Westlands and Waterfowl Council
- ☐ California Outdoor Heritage Alliance
- ☐ Deschutes Chapter-Trout Unlimited
- ☐ California Waterfowl Association
- ☐ Delta Waterfowl
- ☐ Southern Oregon Chapter – Delta Waterfowl
- ☐ McKenzie-Upper Willamette Chapter-Trout Unlimited
- ☐ Bull Moose Sportsmen
- ☐ Tualatin Valley Chapter-Trout Unlimited
- ☐ Clackamas River Chapter- Trout Unlimited
- ☐ Wild Rivers Coast Chapter-Trout Unlimited
- ☐ Oregon Council-Trout Unlimited
- ☐ Sportsmen's Conservation Project-Trout Unlimited
- ☐ Izaak Walton League – Oregon Division
- ☐ Berkley Conservation Institute-Pure Fishing Company
- ☐ Oregon Backcountry Hunters & Anglers
- ☐ Backcountry Hunters & Anglers
- ☐ Northwest Guides and Anglers Association
- ☐ Northwest Sportfishing Industry Association
- ☐ Association of Northwest Steelheaders
- ☐ Birdseye Creek Anglers
- ☐ Central Oregon Flyfishers
- ☐ Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership
- ☒ Mid-Klamath Watershed Council

Governments

- ☐ State of California
- ☐ State of Oregon
- ☐ Karuk Tribe
- ☐ Klamath Tribes
- ☐ Yurok Tribe
- ☐ Humboldt County, California
- ☐ Klamath County, Oregon

Regulatory Agencies

- ☐ CA PUC
- ☐ OR PU

Editorial Boards

- ☐ The Oregonian
- ☐ The Salem Statesman Journal
- ☐ The Klamath Herald & News
- ☐ The Chico Enterprise Record
- ☐ The San Francisco Chronicle
- ☐ The New York Times
- ☐ The Eureka Times Standard
- ☐ The Sacramento Bee

Bring the Salmon Home



For more information

- www.klamathrestoration.org
- www.klamathrestoration.gov
- www.youtube.com/user/klamathmedia
- www.klamathriver.org
- www.americanrivers.org
- ctucker@karuk.us

Tell FERC to Support Klamath Dam Removal!

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street, NE
Washington, DC 20426